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SENATE BILL NO. 1212

Offered January 9, 2019 Prefiled January 4, 2019

A BILL to amend and reenact § 10.1-625 of the Code of Virginia, relating to water improvement districts; assessment of a service charge; referendum; emergency.

Patron—Newman

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 10.1-625 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 10.1-625. Status and general powers of district; power to levy tax or service charge; approval of landowners required.

A watershed improvement district shall have all of the powers of the soil and water conservation district or districts in which the watershed improvement district is situated, and in addition shall, with the concurrence of the governing body of the locality within which the watershed improvement district is located, have the authority to levy assess and collect a tax or service charge to be used for the purposes for which the watershed improvement district was created. No tax shall be levied nor service charge imposed shall be assessed under this article unless two-thirds of the owners of land, which two-thirds owners shall also represent ownership of at least two-thirds of the land area in such district, in such district voting in a referendum called and held in the manner prescribed in this article, approve the levy of a tax assessment of a service charge to be expended for the purposes of the watershed improvement district.

2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.

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